

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

VIRGINIA

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

SURFACE DRAINAGE - FIELD DITCH

CODE 607

Land Owner/Operator_____

County_____ SWCD_____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By_____ Date_____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained surface drainage system is an asset to the farm. This drainage system was designed and installed to remove excess surface water with a system of field ditches. Estimated life span of this installation is at least _____ years. The life of this system can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Your operation and maintenance program includes:

- Maintain cross-section and gradient by controlling channel erosion and sloughing.
- Inspect side slopes to ensure stability is maintained, especially after major storm events. Reshape and reseed slopes to original cross-section as necessary.
- Keep channels clean and free of materials that can reduce the flow. Remove all foreign debris and trash that hinders system operation.
- Control the growth of unwanted vegetation through the use of herbicides and/or mowing.
- Install and maintain fences to prevent livestock access when adjacent fields are used for pasture.
- Check all structures and rock riprap sections for accelerated weathering and displacement. . Check outlet to ensure free flow and a stable outlet condition. Replace to original grades with similar materials as necessary.
- Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents and/or burrowing animals that have or can potentially damage any part of the system. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage. Cross the ditches at designated locations. Avoid travel during wet conditions to minimize impact to the system.

Additional Operation and Maintenance Requirements Specific to this Plan:_____

[illegible]